be found at least traces of more cusps. Now in some of them we may be dealing with instances of a complete tooth change; the suppression, save for one tooth, which is found in Marsupials, was probably not developed in at least some of these early mammals. The simplicity may therefore have been preceded by complexity, and may have been merely an adaptation to an insectivorous diet.

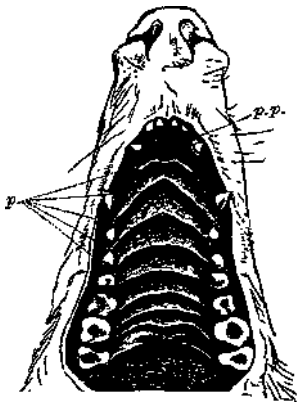

FIG. 40.—Palatal folds of tteBaccoon

Alimentary Canal.—The *mouth* of the Mammalia is remarkable for the fact that with a few exceptions, such as the Whales, there are thick and fleshy lips. The office of these is to seize the food. The roof of the mouth is formed by the " hard palate" in front, which covers over the maxillary and palatine regions. This region is often covered with raised ridges, which have a symmetrical disposition, and are particularly strong in Ruminant animals. They are much reduced in the Hodents, where the anterior part of the palate is ill-defined owing to the way in which its sides fade into the lateral surface of the face. It has been shown that these ridges, in the Oat at least, develop as

has been suggested
papillae, which later become united
to form the ridges, are the last remnant of
palatine teeth such
as occur in lower vertebrates.

The *tongue* is a well-developed organ, usually playing a
double part. It acts as an organ of prehension, especially in
such animals as the Giraffe and the Anteater, where it is
long and protrusible beyond the mouth for a considerable dis-
tance. It also carries gustatory organs, which serve

separate papilliform outgrowths,
and *(Procyoniotor). p.p.* Papilla paia-
it has been suggested that these
**«; '•&. P?[la*al] folds- _(F^m